

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
North Coast Region

ORDER NO. R1-2001-62  
ID NO. 1B85017RHUM  
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

FOR

SAMOA PACIFIC, LLC  
TOWN OF SAMOA  
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

Humboldt County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (hereinafter Regional Water Board), finds that:

1. The Samoa Pacific, LLC (hereinafter Discharger) submitted a Report of Waste Discharge dated March 21, 2001.
2. The Discharger purchased the town of Samoa from Simpson Timber Company in December 2000. Samoa is located Two miles northwest of Eureka on the Samoa Peninsula of Humboldt Bay Samoa in Section 16, Township 5 North, Range 1 West, Humboldt (Latitude N 40° 49', Longitude W 124° 11'), as shown on Attachment A, incorporated herein and made part of this Order.
3. There are two separate wastewater treatment facilities currently in use in Samoa. The western system serves twenty-five homes and consists of a septic tank and leachfield. Its design capacity is reported to be 7,500 gallons per day (gpd). The leachfield is located west of Navy Base Road. The eastern system serves seventy-five homes, the hostelry, and the Samoa Cookhouse. It consists of a septic tank, two bark filters, an oxidation treatment pond, and a percolation basin. The western system leachfield is within the watershed of the Pacific Ocean. The eastern system is located within the watersheds of Humboldt Bay and the Pacific Ocean. The general layout of the western and eastern systems is shown on Attachment B, incorporated herein and made part of this Order.
4. The Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region (Basin Plan) includes water quality objectives and receiving water limitations.
5. The beneficial uses of Humboldt Bay include:
  - a. industrial service supply
  - b. navigation
  - c. water contact recreation
  - d. noncontact water recreation
  - e. commercial and sport fishing
  - f. wildlife habitat
  - g. preservation of rare, threatened or endangered species
  - h. marine habitat
  - i. migration of aquatic organisms

- j. spawning, reproduction, and/or early development of fish
  - k. shellfish harvesting
  - l. estuarine habitat
  - m. aquaculture
6. The beneficial uses of the Pacific Ocean include:
- a. industrial service supply
  - b. industrial process supply
  - c. navigation
  - d. water contact recreation
  - e. noncontact water recreation
  - f. commercial and sport fishing
  - g. preservation of areas of special biological significance
  - h. wildlife habitat
  - i. preservation of rare, threatened or endangered species
  - j. marine habitat
  - k. migration of aquatic organisms
  - l. spawning, reproduction, and/or early development of fish
  - m. shellfish harvesting
  - n. aquaculture
7. Beneficial uses of areal groundwaters include:
- a. agricultural water supply
  - b. industrial service supply
  - c. industrial process supply
8. The western system is presently governed by Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 85-40 adopted by the Regional Water Board on March 27, 1985. The eastern system is not regulated by a Regional Water Board order.
9. As per the Annual Fee Schedule contained in Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 9 of the California Code of Regulations Regional Water Board staff has determined that this facility (eastern and western systems) has a threat to water quality and complexity rating of 2-B with an annual fee of \$1,200.
10. This project is exempt from provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) because it consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing or minor alteration of an existing facility involving no or negligible expansion of use under California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15301.
11. The permitted discharge is consistent with the provisions of State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 68-16, "Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California". The impact on existing water quality will be insignificant.

12. The Regional Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations.
13. The Regional Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 85-40 is rescinded and the Discharger, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code (CWC) and regulations adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

#### **A. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS**

1. The discharge of any waste not specifically regulated by this Order is prohibited.
2. Creation of a pollution, contamination, or nuisance, as defined by CWC Section 13050 is prohibited.
3. The discharge of waste to land that is not under the control of the Discharger is prohibited, except as authorized under section **C. SOLIDS DISPOSAL**.
4. The discharge of untreated waste from anywhere within the collection, treatment, or disposal facilities is prohibited.
5. The discharge of waste from the Town of Samoa collection, or treatment, or disposal facilities system to Humboldt Bay or the Pacific Ocean is prohibited.
6. The discharge of sludge is prohibited.

#### **B. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

1. Representative samples of the discharge from the eastern system's oxidation treatment pond to the percolation basin shall not contain constituents in excess of the following limits:

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Monthly Average<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Daily Maximum<sup>2</sup></u>
BOD (20° C, 5-day)	mg/l	50	80
Suspended Solids	mg/l	50	80
Settleable Solids	ml/l	0.1	0.2
Grease and Oil	ml/l	25	50
Hydrogen Ion	pH	Not less than 6.5 nor greater than 8.5	

<sup>1</sup> The arithmetic mean of all samples collected in a calendar month

<sup>2</sup> The maximum sample of all samples collected in a calendar day

2. The Discharger shall maintain at least two feet of freeboard in the eastern system's oxidation treatment pond and percolation basin. Vegetation surrounding the pond and basin shall be maintained to allow access, visual observation, and sampling.
3. Waste ponded within the eastern system's oxidation treatment pond shall not have a dissolved oxygen content of less than 1.0 milligram per liter (mg/l).
4. The mean daily flow of waste to the western system shall not exceed 7,500 gallons per day (gpd), averaged over a calendar month.
5. The discharge of all wastewater from the western system shall be kept underground at all times.

### **C. SOLIDS DISPOSAL**

1. Collected screenings, scums, sludges, and other solids removed from liquid wastes shall be disposed at a legal point of disposal, and in accordance with the State Water Board promulgated provisions of Title 27, Division 2, of the California Code of Regulations.
2. Any proposed change in sludge use or a disposal practice from a previously approved practice shall be reported to the Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board (Executive Officer) at least 90 days in advance of the change.

### **D. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. Availability

A copy of this Order shall be maintained at the discharge facility and be available at all times to operating personnel.

2. Severability

Provisions of these waste discharge requirements are severable. If any provision of these requirements is found invalid, the remainder of these requirements shall not be affected.

3. Operation and Maintenance

The Discharger shall maintain in good working order and operate as efficiently as possible any facility or control system installed by the Discharger to achieve compliance with the waste discharge requirements.

4. Change in Discharge

The Discharger shall file a report of waste discharge at least 120 days before making any material change or proposed change in the character, location, or volume of the discharge.

5. Change in Ownership

In the event of any change in control or ownership of land or waste discharge facilities presently owned or controlled by the Discharger, the Discharger shall notify the succeeding owner or operator of the following items by letter, a copy of which shall be forwarded to the Regional Water Board:

- a. existence of this Order, and
- b. the status of the Discharger's annual fee account

6. Vested Rights

This Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges. The requirements prescribed herein do not authorize the commission of any act causing injury to persons or property, nor protect the Discharger from liability under federal, State, or local laws, nor create a vested right for the Discharger to continue the waste discharge.

7. Monitoring

The Discharger shall comply with the Contingency Planning and Notification Requirements Order No. 74-151 and the Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R1-2001-62 and any modifications to these documents as specified by the Executive Officer. Such documents are attached to this Order and incorporated herein. Chemical, bacteriological, and bioassay analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Department of Health Services.

8. Inspections

The Discharger shall permit authorized staff of the Regional Water Board:

- a. Entry upon premises in which an effluent source is located or in which any required records are kept;
- b. Access to copy any records required to be kept under terms and conditions of this Order;
- c. Inspection of monitoring equipment or records; and
- d. Sampling of any discharge.

9. Noncompliance

In the event the Discharger is unable to comply with any of the conditions of this Order due to:

- a. Breakdown of waste treatment equipment;
- b. Accidents caused by human error or negligence; or
- c. Other causes such as acts of nature.

The Discharger shall notify the Executive Officer by telephone as soon as it or its agents have knowledge of the incident and confirm this notification in writing within two weeks of the telephone notification. The written notification shall include pertinent information explaining

reasons for the noncompliance and shall indicate the steps taken to correct the problem and the dates thereof, and the steps being taken to prevent the problem from recurring.

10. Operator Certification

Supervisors and operators of the wastewater treatment facilities shall possess a certificate of appropriate grade in accordance with Title 23, CCR Section 3680. The State Water Board may accept experience in lieu of qualification training.

Certification

I, Lee A. Michlin, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, on June 28, 2001.

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Lee A. Michlin  
Executive Officer